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The Grizzly, November 29, 2007

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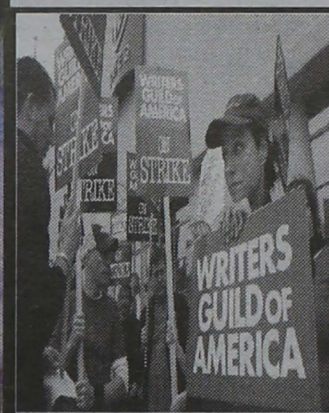
Matt Flyntz, Lane Taylor, Kristen Gallagher, Ashley McComeskey, Ashley Higgins, Roger Lee, Jeremiah Long, Zakary Arnhold, Kristin O'Brassill, Christopher Schaeffer, Michael Thomas, Serena Mithboakar, Alex Ernst, Jason Davis, Katie Callahan, and Chris Carey

The Grizzly

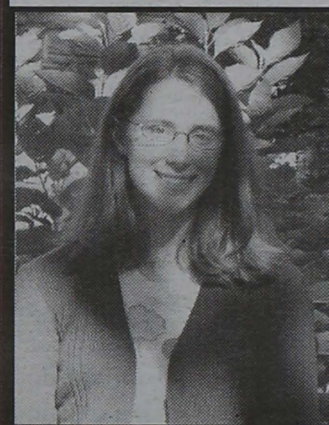
Thursday, November 29, 2007

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

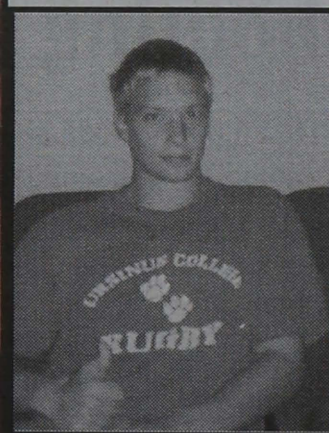
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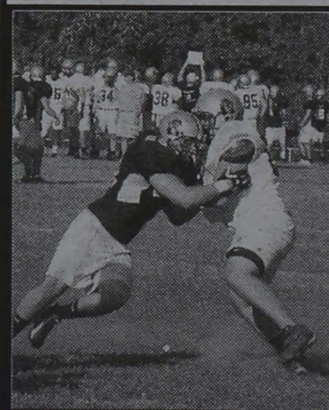
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Bomberger Comes Alive

Collegeville, Pennsylvania

Volume 32, Issue 12

Goodbye Scripted TV: Writer's Guild Takes a Stand

KRISTEN GALLAGHER

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Almost every night of the week people across the country rush home between the hours of six and 10 to catch their favorite scripted television shows. "Grey's Anatomy," "Heroes," and "Friday Night Lights" are a few popular titles. Some may call it pleasure, others an addiction, but either way many look forward to indulging in some drama, comedy, or suspense with their favorite television characters. But after Nov. 5 many of us may have had to say goodbye to our favorite scripted television shows, because the Writers Guild of America is taking a stand.

After an 11-hour meeting and months of disagreements concerning the writers' contracts, the writers decided to picket 15 LA spots, as well as the NBC studios in New York, everyday until a deal is reached. They want to receive a cut of DVD profits, and they want compensation of new-media writers or those whose work is used on for other proposals such as the Web, PDAs, iPods and cell phones.

Many shows have "stockpiled" episodes that will probably be used up throughout the strike. By doing this, the effects of the strike on scripted television will not be seen for a few weeks. A few examples of series that are doing this are "Desperate Housewives," "CSI: Miami," and "The Office." Scripted television will probably be affected by the strike-driven writers, but the most immediate affects will occur to the late night talk shows like "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," "The Colbert Report," "Jay Leno's Tonight Show," and "The David Letterman Show." All of these talk shows have been airing reruns since the strike began. After a 22-week-long strike in 1988, the talk show industry was said to lose 500 million dollars. Hopefully a deal can be reached before such a drastic loss occurs.

The writers are very serious about this strike and are



Associated Press

Actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus supports Writers Guild of America members as they picket Warner Bros. studios in Burbank, Calif. last week.

willing to leave a series out to dry if it means benefiting their cause. A dilemma that is occurring within many writing casts is that union writers and Screen Actors Guild members are still bound by contract to show up for work to write, which is giving them double, and in some cases, triple the work. While the writers are on strike, the senior writer-pro-

ducers and series-show runners are expected to keep everything running moderately smooth.

The outcome of this strike may be a large stoppage of shows in the upcoming summer. These writers are asking for respect and what they feel they deserve.

Shooting for the Cure: Teams Raise Money for Coalition

ASHLEY MCCOMESKEY

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The first annual Shooting for the Cure Basketball tournament will make its debut Dec. 2 in the Floy Lewis Bakes Field House.

Shoot for the Cure is a group created by the Business and Economics course taught by Professor Steven Bowers. Each group from the class is responsible for marketing a product or event to help raise money for a local charity. Shooting for the Cure is aiming to raise money by holding a basketball tournament. The tournament will be an all-day event, open to anyone from grades 5-12 and all college students and Ursinus faculty. Li Xiang Poncz, the CEO for Shooting for the Cure, said, "We're hoping for a lot of community support, and that some frats and sororities will put together teams and take part in the event."

Teams can consist of up to four players, and the tournament will be bracketed into four divisions: middle school, high school, college, and faculty. Trophies will go to the winners of each bracket, and there will be raffles and prizes during the event. Food and concessions will also be sold, and all proceeds will go to the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition and the Michele C. McLennan Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The National Ovarian Cancer Coalition raises money to fund ovarian cancer research and to promote awareness. They also provide support and education for those with

ovarian cancer and their families.

The Michele C. McLennan Memorial Scholarship Fund is a fund that was set up in memory of Dr. Michele McLennan, who was the Assistant Professor in the Business and Economics Department at Ursinus College. Dr. McLennan passed away in October 2005 after fighting ovarian cancer, and the scholarship fund was set up in her name to help future students who are interested in researching labor, race ratio, and unemployment in the economy.

According to Poncz, the group chose these charities after a few recommendations from professors and friends. "A lot of students now didn't know Dr. McLennan, and as time goes on, the fund is getting less and less support and donations. People are forgetting, and we shouldn't let that happen. We want to keep the fund alive; keep her memory alive on campus and in the community."

For further information about the tournament or how to contribute to the cause, email ShootingForTheCure@gmail.com.

Would you like to write for the News section of The Grizzly? E-mail the News Editor at heturnbach@ursinus.edu.

The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Volume 32, Issue 12

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Dr. von Schlegell Discusses Islamic Thought, Movements

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Dr. Barbara von Schlegell addressed approximately 40 students, faculty, and community members in the Bomberger Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 13. The title of her lecture was "Reform Islam? Progressive Islam? New Developments in Islamic Thought and Practice." It was delivered as part of the Walter Livingston Wright III Lectureship, established in 2006. Wright was a 1954 Ursinus graduate committed to fostering an increased understanding of Middle Eastern affairs. Wright's widow was among the attendees of von Schlegell's lecture.

Von Schlegell received her Ph.D. in Islamic studies from the University of California, Berkley, and has published three books and many more academic articles on Islam. Von Schlegell opened her lecture with a sound clip from a song by Egyptian country singer Kareem Salama. In the classic American style of country music, Salama professes his love for Muhammad. This led to von Schlegell's initial commentary about a new interest among some Muslims in the progress of the arts, as there are some Muslim performers in other unlikely genres, such as hip-hop.

There has been debate among Muslims about the

appropriateness of using musical instruments and vocals as part of worship since the mid 18th century. At this time, the most dominant and vocal Muslims were part of the extremely conservative Wahhabi reform movement. This Wahhabi movement would later attract such notorious historical figures as Osama bin Laden and other members of the Taliban.

Von Schlegell calls the Wahhabi movement puritanical. According to Wahhabism, the Qur'an, the sacred text of Islam, is to be read literally: Wahhabism views innovation as harmful, and any change or deviation from their literalist interpretation of the Qur'an is analogous to decay.

While the 9/11 tragedies could certainly be the most recognizable example of the dangerous potential of Wahhabi extremism, another

chilling example occurred in a Saudi Arabian school in 2002. A fire broke out at a school, but religious police blocked the exits to prevent young women whose hair was uncovered from escaping. 14 young girls were trapped and engulfed in the fire.

After the 9/11 attacks, a Western movement of pro-

gressive Islam took root. In fact, on Sept. 12, 2001 the Muslims Against Terrorism organization was founded. While more progressive (or moderate/liberal) movements in Islam are not new, most of them have died out.

This new post-9/11 movement is different, according to von Schlegell, and has definite lasting potential. While progressive Islam is not encompassed in one group but in the actions of many disparate groups, all of these separate organizations have common goals. These goals include (but are not limited to) an emphasis on the arts, the democratization of authority in Islam, gender equality, social justice and religious pluralism. Instead of focusing on specifics in the Qur'an, progressives are guided by the general egalitarian principles of the Qur'an. As such, they regard the Qur'an as a historical document.

The Qur'an was written in the seventh century, and progressives forgive its anachronisms and wisdom that may not be applicable to modern times. For example, the Qur'an limited the number of wives a man can have to four. At the time, this was a radical step toward gender equality. Progressives and Muslim feminists are eager to reject the literalist interpretation of the Qur'an, instead adopting a view that the Qur'an was, in this case, improving the social conditions of women in the seventh century, but that there is more room for progress toward the equality of men and women. The "four wife" standard is highly anachronistic, and the general egalitarian principles of the Qur'an could be interpreted to stress complete gender equality and increasing sexual freedom for Muslim women.

According to von Schlegell, it would not be a surprise to her if the progressive movement in the U.S. in the next few years built its own mosques, with mixed congregations, uncovered heads, music as part of the service, and female leaders in prayer.



Dr. Barbara von Schlegell

Jazzman's Cafe Gets into the Holiday Spirit at Ursinus

ROGER LEE

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With the holiday season just around the corner, Jazzman's is gearing up for its "jolly good time of the year." The popular coffee shop will introduce new drinks, gifts, and a new look for the Ursinus community.

"As it gets colder, everyone likes hot chocolate," said Jazzman's student

worker Lane Taylor. The coffee shop located in Zack's is currently planning for its holiday season.

Taylor does not mind working with Jazzman's customers. Compared to her previous food court experience, the Ursinus community has been nothing but great. "I think what affects our mood most is the customers," smiled Taylor. "They are really nice!"

To satisfy its customers, Jazzman's is spicing up their look for the holidays. It starts by sporting new winter-themed shirts. Last year's design was on a light blue shirt with images of snowflakes and cute penguins. This year, all Jazzman's workers will receive new shirts available in long

and short sleeves.

The coffee shop plays its signature CD of eclectic jazz titled "Jazzman's Special Blend." The music goes with the jazz theme of the store. To add to the mood, holiday inspired decorations line the glass casing and coffee canisters. The shop really gets into decorating and bringing in the holiday season just right.

"We're even selling notebooks this year," said an excited Taylor. Jazzman's is well-known for its unique gift collection. Each year it sells packs of coffee, tea, mugs, trinkets, and more. Taylor added, "The people with block meal plans tend to buy the gifts at the end of the semester."

In the food and drink department,

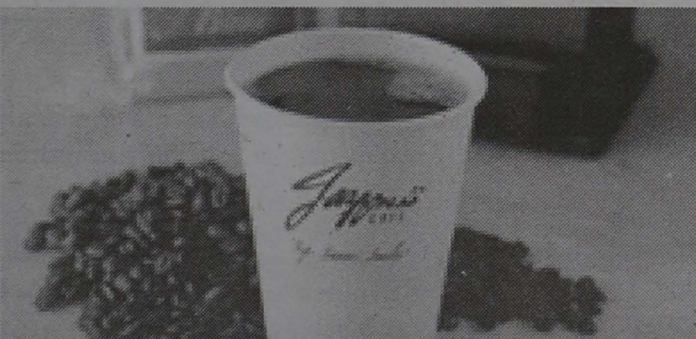
Jazzman's will serve its tasty Pumpkin Smoothie. It was successful with students in the past,

so the shop plans on bringing it back to the menu. There will also be the Bombay Salad, an Indian influenced dish that is sure to please.

Be on the lookout for Egg Nog and last year's popular Peppermint Hot Chocolate. Taylor said "I'm not positive,

but I heard the peppermint hot chocolate is coming back." The Ursinus community will be waiting for these tasty limited time only offers from the Jazzman's franchise.

Taylor and her co-workers look forward to the holiday season. Taylor said with a smile, "We all get a little stressed, but there is a surge of customers to serve." With final exams on the way, students will be in need of late night snacks and hot beverages to keep them energized. Jazzman's will once again be the number one spot on campus for great food, music and holiday spirit.



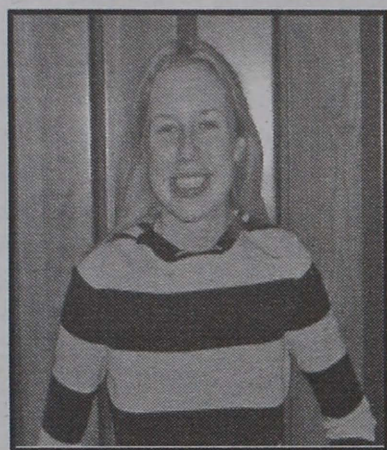
Interested in current events occurring here at Ursinus or in the outside world?

Interested in becoming a writer or journalist?

Get your start at *The Grizzly*!

Meetings are at 5 p.m. every Monday in Olin 102.

A New STAR on Campus



LANE TAYLOR

Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex

Those of us who have been around the Ursinus block a few times, so to speak, are probably aware of the existence of STAR, formerly known as Students Together Against Rape; however, most of us are probably unaware of its re-tooling as an organization. Because I have heard grumblings from the Ursinus underbelly that STAR has shifted the focus of their organization to sexual health, I

chose to investigate the matter in an effort to better inform the UC student of the sexual health services provided on campus. I sat down with STAR President Karen Boedecker to discuss the organization about which I knew very little.

Karen explained that last year STAR engaged in a transitional period. Because there was no organization on campus dedicated to sexual health, the members of STAR decided to shift their focus to meet the needs of the cam-

pus. The organization decided to shift its focus instead of creating a new organization because they believed that it would be easier for them to get approval and funding as opposed to going through the process that new organizations are required to go through. Karen assured me that they have not abandoned sexual assault prevention by any means; in fact, last year Dean Nolan collected the names and telephone numbers of the STAR members to formulate a list that victims of sexual assault on campus can use to contact someone for support. Yes Ursinus, sexual assault happens here. STAR is hoping to provide students this service again this year; however, they would like to open up the option of being a name on the list to the whole community.

Much like the majority of student organizations, STAR receives the bulk of its funding from AFAC. Unfortunately, like the majority of student organizations on campus, a lack of adequate funds has forced them to tighten their belts a little. They received 1500 dollars from AFAC, and they are currently considering fundraising to bolster their bank account. (Because of a lack of funds, they were unable to print fliers about sexual assault or "The Red Zone," the time between the beginning of the semester and Thanksgiving when freshmen women are most at risk for sexual assault). According to Karen, the organization is saving most of its funds for their participation in "Take Back the Night." Because they have not had much of a successful response to "Take Back the Night" on our campus, they plan to bus interested individuals to a nearby campus with a bigger cel-

ebration, such as Princeton. Other than possible fundraising, STAR has received no funds outside of AFAC. Though there is a rumor that the organization accepted money from an abstinence-only organization, Karen denies this allegation; however, they will provide information regarding abstinence as well as sexual health and birth control.

STAR has been approached about contributing to Freshman Orientation and plans to start tabling outside of Wismer. If you'd like to become a part of STAR, they meet on Tuesdays at 8 PM in Wismer Parents' Lounge, and their meetings will resume next semester. If you have any comments, concerns, or suggestions for STAR, you can contact them at STAR@ursinus.edu.

Moritomo: Konichiwa, Hai Hai!

JEREMIAH LONG

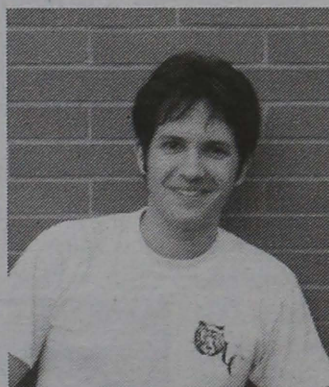
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Greetings faithful readers (is there at least one of you out there?). I hope this latest review finds you both fat and sassy. I have had a revelation - reviewing restaurants is very hard! So, to help alleviate the pain and pressure I'm feeling in making these earth shattering opinions, I mean, well-judged and graded reviews, I'm converting to a percentage based scale. It will still be based on points. I'm just bumping the food category from being worth 20 points to being worth 30 points and renaming it to dining (food sounds like I graduated high school with a remedial education), so the standings are now: Appearance x/10, Service x/10 and Dining x/30. Now, because of this, I'm re-reviewing the last few restaurants I've done. Pizza Stop (please eat here at least once, it's not very far away and is probably the best restaurant in the area): 80% and Tortugas (best, well only, Mexican restaurant in the area): 76%. This helps me ensure that what I eat there counts for the most, so that the restaurants I rate highly have to have at least above average dining.

Moritomo's, for the uninformed, serves Japanese style cuisine, and before I go any further, let me put out two disclaimers for this and any other Japanese restaurant I happen to review. Disclaimer number one: I don't like raw fish. I just can't bring myself to enjoy eating the stuff. The flavor is not bad I just can't stand the texture. Disclaimer number two: in Doylestown, my home town, we have an exceptionally good Japanese restaurant, so in that respect I'm spoiled rotten. It also doesn't help that I used to work there and that it was the best job I've had in all the years I've been on this earth. Therefore, I'm a little biased in my

expectations for Japanese restaurants.

Moritomo's is going for one of the more modern Japanese looks, which it pulls off quite well while falling flat in a few areas. It has the square, geometric look that you see in many restaurants of its type, with a dividing wall going down the middle of the restaurant complete with glass panes depicting circling koi. The dividing wall separates the dining area from the hibachi. It also has one of those fish tanks with those weird pink fish in them at the sushi bar. Did I mention it had a sushi bar? The restaurant has a modern eastern ambiance that is spoiled only by its very western looking ceiling, which includes very plastic looking plants and tacky ceiling fans. They get brownie points for having two authentic Japanese eating areas for anyone who's ever wanted to know what it's like to eat on their knees (Appearance 7/10).



As for service, well I hate to judge (oh wait, that's a hypocritical statement...), but they seemed to want to get in, out, and on with life. I got my rolls, then got my food, and when I was finished with that I was immediately given my check. I don't know how busy that place is on the weekends, but on a weekday night their weren't many of us in there, so I'm a little offended that they seemed to want to get me out of there so fast (6/10).

As for the dining, I was unimpressed (see disclaimer number two) because the rolls I got were falling apart. I ordered the chicken teriyaki (good choice for health conscious non-sushi eaters), but it was literally swimming in sauce, a little disheartening considering how little I'm looking to be reminded of fish (Dining 24/30). Overall, an enjoyable dining experience; I give Moritomo a 74%, which is pretty good.

Moritomo's is located at the Limerick square Genuardi's shopping Center in Royersford.

Career Corner: Cool Places to Work in Philly

CAREER SERVICES

career@ursinus.edu

The November issue of Philadelphia magazine profiled 20 of Philly's coolest places to work. Whether you are looking for awesome perks, low stress, free meals, or neat office space- the Philly area just may be the place to be!

Commerce Bank offers an incentive program where employees caught doing good work are given stickers that are redeemable for jackets, grills, and boogie boards.

Quaker Chemical Corp offers summer hours, on site fitness center, and generous retirement benefits along with opportunities to visit their international operations in Amsterdam, Shanghai, and Rio.

Toll Brothers offers employees discounts of up to 7.5 % when buying Toll Brother built homes. After your 10th, 20th, and 25th anniversary, the company sends you and a friend on vacation!

Charming Shoppes is a great place for females and is recognized by the national Association of Female Executives.

QVC is cool because, along with 30% discounts, QVC is family-friendly and provides assistance with infertility treatments and adoption assistance.

Vanguard offers a generous vacation plan, a killer retirement savings program, and tuition reimbursement along with an on-site MBA program.

SEI offers 30 paid vacation days from the start, flex-time arrangements, and day care.

NeatReceipts offers free lunch every Friday & ugly sweater contests.

Beyond.com offers a community Netflix account, a game room with air hockey, and a full-size freezer stocked with ice cream and goodies. On Fridays, the yahoo radio played daily on speakers is set to 80's rock.

Philadelphia Insurance Companies offers an extra 15 minutes for lunch if you are working out, subsidized memberships to their three gyms, and a culture of fitness.

Urban Outfitters is in a cool building in the renovated Philly Navy Yard where you will find a café, newsstand, and a gym with yoga classes. You can also bring your pet to work and arrange play dates for your pooch!

Focus the Nation: A Cornucopia of Action and Awareness

ZAKARY ARNHOLD

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Shortly after the start of the Spring 2008 semester, some of the premier scientists and voices in the environmental realm will converge at Ursinus College. This environmental movement, entitled Focus the Nation (www.focusthenation.org), is a part of a nationwide effort to discuss solutions to global warming at colleges and universities, K-12 schools, and various organizations. The effort at Ursinus College is geared toward providing education, promoting self-awareness, and enhancing discussion of problems and solutions related to global climate change. Although the idea did not start at Ursinus, the college is leading the way and has been acknowledged in the September/October edition of *E*, the Environmental Magazine.

Focus the Nation was originated at Lewis and Clark College by Eban Goodstein with the foci of organizing a nationwide teach-in to discuss the solutions for global climate change culminating on January 31, 2008. The organizers of Focus the Nation believe that "we owe our young people a day of national, focused, non-partisan discussion of the decisions to be made in the next ten years, decisions that will profoundly affect their future, and indeed the future of all human generations to follow" (www.focusthenation.org). This is an interdisciplinary approach to a large scale global problem, which will require efforts and perspectives from a broad range of disciplines including political science, biology, environmental science, chemistry, religion, philosophy, economics, computer science, and more.

The history and the groundwork of Focus the Nation at Ursinus College started with the Global Climate Change special topics course taught by Dr. Leah Joseph of the Environmental Studies Department. Of the hundreds of campuses that have registered for Focus the

Nation (over 750), Dr. Joseph's class made Ursinus College the first in Pennsylvania. This expanded to a topic in the ENV Senior Seminar of Spring 2007 to establish an interim steering committee, a mission statement, institutional support, and a schedule of events. A larger steering committee, made up of faculty, students, alumni, and staff was established to deal with the complexity of hosting a large scale symposium. The steering committee is broken down into sub-committees to manage speakers, logistics, finances, faculty involvement, other campus community involvement, on and off campus networking and outreach, local school district involvement, activities, conference sustainability, and strategies for beyond Focus the Nation.

Ursinus's Focus the Nation will be held January 30 through February 2 in Pfahler, Bomberger, Wismar Lower Lounge, the Lenfest Theater, and various other locations on campus. Currently, the Steering Committee has collected a who's who of scientists, writers, and voices in the environmental realm and have secured over \$23,000 to support this effort and implement the agenda.

Leading the list of scientists are Richard W. Alley, renowned Penn State University climate change researcher and member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Henry Pollack, renowned University of Michigan climate scientist and expert of scientific uncertainty, and Timothy J. Ragen, Executive Director of the U.S. Marine Mammal Commission. Speakers will include Richard Kerr, senior correspondent on energy, climate and the environment for the journal *Science*, Andrew Revkin, environmental correspondent of the *New York Times*, environmental ethicist Dale Jamieson, Heidi Cullen of The Weather Channel, and Joe Kruger, Policy Director of the National Commission on Energy Policy.

The conference will also comprise presentations and panels on climate change, oceans, and campus carbon neutrality. Other scheduled events include a political forum, music by Dar Williams, and various on-going activities.

Focus the Nation is just one of many efforts to raise

public awareness and promote active participation within our society. The speakers for Focus the Nation are highly regarded in their fields and undoubtedly influential individuals. You, the reader, have the opportunity to participate directly in a nationwide effort, educating yourself on environmental issues, or simply learn a little more about your overall impact on the environment. If you are interested in learning more about Ursinus' Focus the Nation or becoming involved, please contact Dr. Richard Wallace (RWallace@ursinus.edu) or Dr. Leah Joseph (LJoseph@ursinus.edu).

Retractions:

- In our last issue, a paragraph that was supposed to be placed with the article regarding "A Bright Room Called Day" was accidentally placed with Jeremiah Long's restaurant review. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

- In a faculty spotlight on Amy Friedman published on October 4, 2007, we misidentified the institutions where she studied and taught. In addition to her full-time position here in the English Department, Professor Friedman has also taught at Philadelphia University and Bryn Mawr College. She will soon earn her Ph.D. from the University of London, Goldsmith College. We apologize to Professor Friedman for this mistake.

Book Review: *A Natural History of the Senses*

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Our senses are such a part of our everyday existence that it is sometimes difficult to explain them, or it seems useless to call attention to them. What Diane Ackerman does in her catalogue of sense perception, *A*

Natural History of the Senses, is define them in ways that change our view of the senses. The somehow poetic narrative of scientific explanation is broken up into six sections: smell, touch, taste, hearing, vision, and synesthesia (when one sense stimulates another).

Ackerman offers the scientific facts of how our senses work, why, and in what ways, by providing a context in which to understand how the human body functions as it does. While this might sound like a biology or chemistry textbook, it really is very far from it. By utiliz-

ing a poetic tone, Ackerman makes connections to everyday life, small actions that are normally overlooked – such as noticing the scent of those around you, or inexplicably connecting colors to sounds.

She begins by analyzing the association between smell and memory and by offering technical explanations of how strong smell receptors are and how they trigger the emotion-registering portions of the brain. The difference is that she does so by writing about the effect that smell has had on history by describing Napoleon's obsession with violets – and addressing the correlation between the brevity and nature of the scent with its effect on the one who is smelling it. Ackerman goes into detail about the frustration of our inability to describe a scent, despite its importance to our sentiments: "When we try to describe a smell, words fail us like the fabrications they are... a smell can be overwhelmingly nostalgic because it triggers powerful images and emotions before we have time to edit them."

Ackerman even includes a history of kissing, and what must have motivated its origins, expounding upon the healing powers of touch. Her discussion of sense perception across culture, and the general language which all humans share through the function of our senses allows for the reader to question his/her own actions. The book leaves you wondering where memories, attraction, and depression actually originate from – how much can really be explained through a study of biological inclinations?

The first five sections of the book correspond to the

normal five senses. The final chapter, though, "Synesthesia," talks about a phenomena which causes one in every five hundred thousand people to regularly feel a bond between color and sound. It appears most frequently in famous artists; composer Nikolai Rimski-Korsakov, writer Vladimir Nabokov, and poet Dylan Thomas were all synesthetes. Rimski-Korsakov applied colors to music. To him, C major was white, A major was sapphire blue, D major was yellow. Nabokov mentioned what he referred to as "colored hearing," thinking that "the long *a* of the English alphabet... has for me the tint of weathered wood."

What's most striking about this book is that it really is fascinating – the language is enjoyable to read, but it is also educational. Ackerman quotes scientists and their studies directly alongside philosophers and famous works of literature, so the reader trusts her well-researched assertions. Her descriptions of the senses and the role they play in our intellectual and emotional lives could win over the most scientific-minded reader; vice-versa, it is intriguing and well-written enough to maintain the attention of one who would normally stray from science texts. Granted, I did have a slight inclination to skip over the drawn-out passages about follicles, organs, and corpuscles, but the relationship between human emotional interaction and the senses, coupled with the poeticism with which Ackerman writes makes *A Natural History of the Senses* worth the read.

Giving Thanks This Holiday

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Months of frequently consuming food at Wismer dining hall and Zack's during first semester classes leave students attending Ursinus College with a need to return to the comfort of their homes and enjoy "real food." For those students who are not accustomed to making frequent trips home on weekends during the semester, Thanksgiving is a rare opportunity to change their diets for a few meals.

Many students forget about all of their obligations pertaining to class the weekend before break starts. With Tuesday being the last day of classes, many students think it is unnecessary for them to attend class. Students leave their dorms and head for home Friday or stay on campus until Sunday night after having enjoyed a full weekend of campus festivities. The only thought on the minds of most students when they plan to return home for Thanksgiving is 1) the friends they will reunite with upon their return, and 2) the home-cooked meal awaiting them on their dining tables. Far from the minds of many are those who are less fortunate, who may not necessarily have a home-cooked meal to return home to.

Every Thanksgiving for the past 10 years, I have made the 2-hour commute from Brooklyn to Harlem in New York to receive my Thanksgiving meal. Each year I take the A-train to the last stop on the line, and I see the same woman come by attempting to sell batteries to customers on the train. She always pitches the same speech about her need to collect money so as to have food to provide for her family that night. Most customers on the train tune her out and pay her no mind. With the decline in the need for batteries, since most subway users have upgraded to lithium-battery-powered MP3 players, this woman rarely makes her sale. Once she leaves, people become less tense and relax as they had before the woman stepped on the train. It is almost as if seeing her makes them embarrassed to know they chose not to buy a pack of batteries

Continued on pg. 7

UN Considers Ban on Human Cloning

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The next crusader to prevent our science fantasy of human clones roaming the earth is, not surprisingly, the United Nations. The UN General Assembly has again raised its voice concerning the possible threats to mankind and the unethical ideas that are brought about by human cloning, as it has back in early 2001 and in 2005.

Previously, attempts to reach a binding international treaty did not succeed over divisions whether to outlaw all cloning or permit therapeutic cloning of cells for medical research, including stem cell research. Obviously, many international organizations understand the benefits such as creating replacement tissue that stem cell research can develop for patients suffering from Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and diabetes.

The recent stance taken by the UN considers banning only reproductive cloning, such as duplicating human beings and producing/destroying embryos on a large

Fear of Music: A Backup Column in Two Parts

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It's confession time at Fear of Music, so throw on some Fugazi or something for a minute, cause my heart is gonna be bared like nobody's business: see, in the name of vacation, I spent most of Thanksgiving break not really... listening to much new music. Or at least not much *exciting* new music (sorry, 1900's, but you sound like Andre Breton got his hands on a pair of giant scissors and the collected works of the Elephant Six collective). As such, I don't really have any mind-blowing new album to unveil this week. Hey, maybe it's been a slow month. Maybe things flew under my radar. Maybe finding music got inexplicably and unaccountably harder all of a sudden.. Cough.

Anyway, I'm going to be doing something a little different, a little, ah, lazier this week; a two-album review. Consider it, if you will, a Rock Block. For you slow readers out there, perhaps even a Power Hour! The first album, The Rosebuds' *Night of the Furies*, is a couple months old but might have flown under your radar, and the second is an underappreciated classic from 1987.

First off, yeah, The Rosebuds are one of those "couple" bands. Frontpeople Ivan Howard and Kelly Crisp are, in fact, adorable to a magnitude previously reached only by The Mates of State and possibly Ringo Starr. And, yes, the album does lead off with a warbling synth line and sighed vocals on "My Punishment for Fighting" — but don't immediately write off the album as one of the tween-pop zombies straggling out from the ragged edge of 1997 right off the bat.

It's a surprisingly substantial album, although not as consistent and varied as their sophomore effort, 2005's *Birds Make Good Neighbors*. "Cemetery Lawns" is that rare delicacy, an 80's dance-throwback that actually works, blending New Order hooks with a cheeky Robyn Hitchcock-esque vocal delivery. Overall, it's a dynamic that describes the entire album pretty well — imagine the laconic and wistful lyrics and vocals of, say, Jens Lekman or some other chamberpop auteur, except trapped in a club circa '88. It's a bit of an incongruous combination, but it works. The band

wisely cuts back on Crisp's vocals a bit this time around (although she shines on the snarling "When the Lights Went Dim"), and lets Howard's voice stand out in its own awkward way. Is it album-of-the-year material? Nah. But it's a solid release, danceable and yet curiously appropriate background noise for an afternoon nap.

Anyway. First a little guessing game. I'm going to presume that for most of you reading this, if you own just one Smith's album, it would be *The Queen is Dead*, maybe *Meat is Murder*. That's cool. They're both great albums, and a lot of people have made decent cases for the former as one of the best of the decade. It's a shame though, because in my opinion the band's magnum opus is their last album, as well as their most overlooked — *Strangeways, Here We Come*. Album opener "A Rush and a Push and the Land is Ours" polishes the burlesque pomp first mined on "Frankly, Mr. Shankly" to a fine sheen, and features Morrissey at his classic bitchiest: "...and people who are uglier than you or I, they take what they need..."

Harsh, Moz!

"Girlfriend in a Coma," is perhaps the best-known track off the album, thanks to a classic video that matches the acerbic wit of the lyrics barb for barb, and first-rate and surprisingly tender guitarwork from Johnny Marr.

The standout song on the album, and the track that propels it to the top spot in my mind, is the glam-rock (seriously) ballad "I Started Something I Couldn't Finish." From the careening bassline to the echoing hand-claps (oh *man*, the hand-claps), the track vamps with an intensity that would make Marc Bolan blush. Morrissey's vocals are androgynous in the best possible sense, calling to mind Bowie and the New York Dolls along with a burlesque, snapping and snarling and preening like a... well, like a goddamn rock star. Not to put too fine a point on it, but his performance puts the M in MILF, at least for three minutes and 48 seconds. Geez.

So seriously, shelf *The Queen is Dead* for a week or two and relive those heady days before the earplugs and tommy-guns when Morrissey and his motley retinue actually had some relevance. No offense to Modest Mouse. Well, not much offense.

scale, while allowing scientists to pursue research on therapeutic cloning under controlled environments.

The suggestion of outlawing human cloning seems like a universal condemnation, with over 50 nations having introduced or considering laws to ban human reproductive cloning. But as the UN suggests, there is indeed an urgent need for a global ban on human cloning. We have all been hearing why human reproductive cloning is dangerous and unethical, so I will not go into that, but it is important to know that there exist many proponents of human reproductive cloning who secretly wish to continue research on it (One such research group is the cult-like Clonaid, which famously declared that they were the first ones to clone a human being, but could not back it up with any evidence). While many countries have developed an interest in banning this type of cloning, it is important to consider that a majority of the countries in the world have yet to give thought to it. This lack of legislation in such countries could open incentives for such scientists to create human clones in these

countries. Hence, a global binding resolution banning human cloning could keep a check on these activities.

Keeping in mind how the United Nations affects us on so many aspects of everyday life, this initiative is indeed very important and timely. And no other institution can represent the international community as well as the United Nations.

It would be interesting to see how this initiative would develop further over time, and if it gets translated into a legally-binding resolution. As of now, with most countries opposing the issue of human reproductive cloning, it seems as if it wouldn't be too hard an issue for countries to agree on. But it is important to keep certain things in mind — if a resolution banning human cloning is passed after all, it should not be vaguely defined as to blur the lines between reproductive and therapeutic cloning which may further lead to exploitation of the laws. Also, the UN must deliberate now, before it gets too late — or else it may have to work out the rights of cloned humans.

Mike Huckabee and Generation Chuck

Hold the presses, lads and lassies – our nation's electoral freak show just got a brand new Bearded Lady.

And we're not talking just any old beard, mind you. This is the beard of beards, the beard that made 80's cinema the coke-fueled, neon-tinged Vietnam flashback that it was. That's right – this beard is attached to the face of Chuck Norris.

For the Youtube-deficient among you, Republican presidential hopeful Mike Huckabee has released a commercial wherein he receives a semi-humorous endorsement from none other than Walker, Texas Ranger. I say "semi-humorous" because a) it is a *real* endorsement, even though Huckabee spends the entire commercial cracking Chuck Norris jokes, and b) it's not really humorous.

Let us be frank with you, reading public. There was a time when Chuck Norris jokes were original, and imaginative, and even – dare we say – *funny*. That time, however, peaked about 15 minutes after the first joke was uttered. It's been all downhill ever since.

Let us take that one step further and say that if you, the reader, still find yourself laughing at Chuck Norris jokes, or if you find a supposed rivalry between pirates and ninjas even remotely chuckle-worthy, or if your entire comedic repertoire relies heavily on the words *cheese* and *monkey*, stop reading right now. There's nothing for you here.

With that out of the way: what Huckabee has done

here is very clever, and not clever in the "he-might-bring-fresh-ideas-to-the-White-House" way, but clever in the "so-manipulative-as-to-be-approaching-comic-book-supervilliany" way. Huckabee has tapped into a powerful voting bloc, one that has, throughout America's political history, been regarded as uncourtable. These are 18-24 year-olds, college students and recent high school graduates, newly endowed with suffrage, and so apathetic that you could not get them interested in politics even if you told them that zit cream was going to be federally subsidized and handed out like Halloween candy. At least 80% of them play *World of Warcraft*, and regard the Horde/Alliance dichotomy more pressing and dangerous than most racial divides. This is Generation Chuck – and Mike Huckabee has just secured *every one of their votes*.

Abortion? Illegal immigration? War in Iraq? None of this matters to Generation Chuck. For lo, Chuck Norris hath descended from on high and delivered unto them a commandment: thou shalt disregard policy issues and honor thy stupid cult-worship of an 80s action-movie star, for doing so will validate thy feelings of social alienation by making you *different* and *unique* – just like all the other beautiful snowflakes you hang out with.

You might think I'm being hard on Generation Chuck, and perhaps I am. But important messages sometimes call for a certain degree of overkill (see the Ten Plagues of Egypt,

Exodus chapters 7-11), and our message here is of the utmost importance: the further Mike Huckabee is from being President of the United States, the better. The proof of this, in fact, comes from the Chuck Norris endorsement commercial itself. As a good friend of *CfD* has pointed out, Huckabee equates *private gun ownership* with *border security*. Meditate for a few moments on the ominous implications of that platform. If images of the Rio Grande clogged with corpses doesn't spring to mind, *you haven't been paying attention*.

But certainly we are being alarmist, no? Huckabee is an ordained Southern Baptist minister, and (so the story goes) could never endorse violence. Ah, but let's not ignore the word "Southern" in "Southern Baptist." Have you forgotten what happened the last time we armed the South? Losing a *second* Civil War might shatter their already-tenuous regional psyche, and then how would our nation get its annual Blue Collar Comedy fix?

Secondly, and more importantly: I respect Southern Baptists, in the same way I respect anyone who has thoughtfully considered their religious beliefs and has made a choice they strive to uphold every day. But the sad fact of the matter is that in today's political climate, Southern Baptist is the Christian denomination most prone to the corruptive influences of slick-haired politicians with a hard-to-sell agenda and a charismatic smile.

With that in mind, there is something this country must realize, a mantra we must all commit to memory. It goes like this: *the last thing this God-forsaken rock of a planet needs is more religious people with guns*. It's sad, yes, but millennia of human history don't lie – no matter what Chuck Norris says.

Dan Sergeant and Matthew Flyntz can divide by zero at dasergeant@ursinus.edu and maflyntz@ursinus.edu. Thanks to Michael Taggart for the Youtube link.



**MATTHEW FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT**
Communism for Dummies

"The Usual Suspects" (1995)

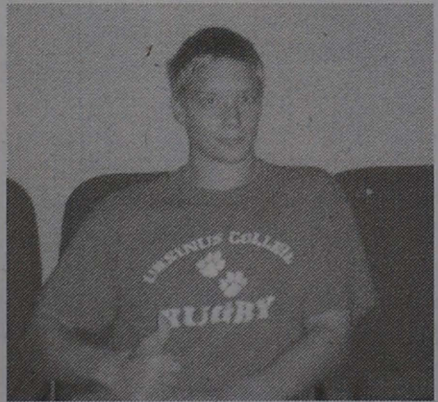
I learned this week that I've been writing this column for way too long. I'm at the point now that I can't even remember which movies I've reviewed, including this one. In order to avoid a repeat, I was forced to delve back into the online archives of my first year, which for whatever reason, I neglected to save the files from. This proved to be quite educational. For one thing, I apparently have ripped myself off a few times, reusing the same opening for different flicks. In my defense, I am a big admirer of my work, so it's more of an homage to myself than outright plagiarism. That being said, here's "The Usual Suspects."

Verbal Kint (Kevin Spacey) was a member of a five man crew of criminals pulled together by a truck hijacking. As one of two people who survived a massive boat explosion, he is forced to recount the events of the previous six weeks and how they encountered the legendary Keyser Soze.

If this movie is known for anything, it's that it has one of the best twists of all time, thus why the above summary is so vague. Every time I watch this flick, I end up catching another clue that I missed before. Throw in one of the best ensemble casts, made up of Kevin Spacey, Gabriel Byrne, Benicio Del Toro, Kevin Pollack, Chazz Palmieri...and Stephen Baldwin (they can't all be winners). Add suspense and a fast pace and it's clear why this is #20 in IMDB's top 250.

The acting throughout is top notch. There is a real

sense of chemistry within the gang, especially once everything starts going to hell, and they consider running to try to escape Keyser Soze. Gabriel Byrne in particular is at the top of his game, playing the flawed, but sympathetic Keaton, the ex-crooked cop who may or may not have finally turned his life around. Kevin Spacey also managed to pick up an Oscar for his performance as Verbal Kint.



ALEX ERNST
The Back Row

You also have to give it to Bryan Singer for taking a script so full of twists and making it work for the screen. In another director's hands, this flick could easily have become a muddled mess, but he manages to pull it off through a variety of flashbacks, voiceovers, and montages, all of which play with your perception of just what exactly happened leading up to the explosion on the boat.

It kills me that there's so much I want to talk about with this movie, but would end up spoiling the twist. Instead, I have to say this movie has one of my favorite quotes of all time: "The greatest trick the Devil ever played was convincing the world he didn't exist" (that, and shouting "KEYSER SOZE!" in a Hungarian accent, but quoting that out of context makes much less sense). Bottom line, this movie is fantastic and deserves to be seen by one and all.

Looking ahead, keep an eye out for "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street." Although it has a few negatives (at least for me) in the form of Tim Burton and his "make everyone look like a high school goth" style, as well

(Continued from pg. 6) from her for a dollar to help her eat when they already have a meal to attend to on this day of thanks. For the upcoming holiday season, it is important that many of us change our demeanors, and attempt to help those who are less fortunate than ourselves, even if we do not have that much to give.

Helping those in need is very simple; one does not need to devote a large amount of time to help improve the holiday celebration of another. For those who wish to put in a minimal effort and make a change nonetheless, giving that woman walking by on your train a couple dollars would be extremely helpful. Passing a few dollars to the man sitting on the corner shaking a cup of change for the night would be helpful. Of course, one knows not what they will do with the money once you have handed it out to them, but during the holiday season you must have faith that it will go to feeding their stomachs. For those of us who are more interested in affecting a larger group of people, your best option is to look into organizations such as the Hillel Foundation, which works to provide the homeless with food and a place to eat on Thanksgiving. Students and other volunteers work on this day to help serve the food and then participate in eating and engaging in discussion with the holiday guests.

Thanksgiving and the winter holidays should be about finding happiness for everyone. During this holiday season, please try and help others have as enjoyable a time around family and friends as you have around your own.

as the fact that it's a musical, something about Johnny Depp and the whole unintentional-cannibalism plot device sells it for me. That's it for this week. I'm out.

Alex Ernst would take Billy Baldwin over Stephen any day. Just look at "Backdraft." You can reach him at alernst@ursinus.edu.

Dubble Vision: Field Hockey Frenzy

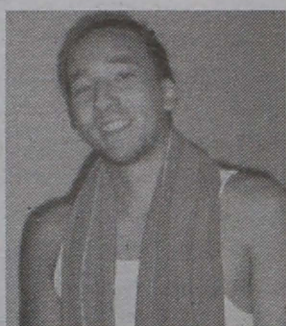
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Hey, I'm back! Have no fear, Dubb is still here! Don't worry, I didn't quit on you guys. I know the last two weeks may have been rough on a few of you, not being able to get your weekly dose of Dubb, but I promise you it won't happen again.

The weekend before we went home for Thanksgiving was pretty wild over in the Athletic Department to say the least. A "Field Hockey Frenzy" is what I was calling it. Ursinus, I don't want to say reluctantly (although I'm sure some of our girls wouldn't hesitate), played host to the NCAA Division III Field Hockey National Championship on Friday and Saturday. Everything was top notch, from the five dollar programs, to the official "Event Management" badge I was given (and I kept, by the way). The games were even broadcast live over the internet thanks to two of my fellow Communications majors, Chris Schulz and Gabe VanArman. Great camera work, fellas.

The NCAA games were also very exciting to watch, even though the two teams in the championship were two I had never even heard of: Bowdoin and Middlebury. Bowdoin ended up winning 4-3 in a thriller. However, for me, the best part of the weekend was the game that a lot of people didn't even know took place. It was 9:30 am on Saturday that the NCAA had their Senior All-Star game; a game that featured two of Ursinus's best in Lindsay Cappa and Jess Lamina (still "Animal" if spelled backwards). And the funny thing is, I missed almost the entire game. By the time I arrived at Eleanor Frost Snell field, time had just expired in the second half and the score was tied 3-3. I saw my



main man Kip standing with Coach T by the fence. I walked up and asked if Lindsay had anything to do with the score being tied knowing it was her last game on our home turf. I wanted to see our players go out with a bang. To my delight, Kip informed me that Cappa had scored two of the goals in what was an amazing comeback for the home team, and that they were now going straight to a shootout. Each team chose five shooters, and had their two goaltenders alternate. While Jess was, of course, a goal tender, Lindsay, to my disappointment, had not been chosen as a shooter.

But, to make things even more dramatic, the game was still tied after the shootout. Each team scored three goals. They had to do it again! And to my excitement, Cappa was the first girl to shoot this round. She ran out to the penalty stripe, set her feet and bang! The goalie didn't even stand a chance! All in a day's work for Lindsay. Then it was Lamina's turn as the opposing team's shooter stepped up. It didn't even matter, though; it could have been Mario Lemieux in there taking the shot, I already knew what was going to happen. Jess had that look in her eye. The shooter wound, and fired. Not today! Jess kicked the ball right back at her. I went nuts. For some odd reason I figured the second shootout was a sudden death; only to watch another home shooter run out to the circle. I looked around sheepishly hoping nobody saw me, but I'm pretty sure this little girl who couldn't have been older than five was staring at me with one of those "What the hell is he doing" looks. Whatever, a little premature celebration never hurt anybody (well except in that Stanford vs Cal football game in 1982). In any event it turned out to be another best of five, and the home team scored the first three this time while Lamina stoned the oppositions first three to seal the come from behind win.

I couldn't have been more proud. On a weekend that was meant to showcase the best teams in the country, in my eyes it was two of our own stars that shined the brightest.

Bears Take the Path Less Traveled

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When the Bears seniors left the practice football field for the final time on November 7th, they did so in much the same way as they had the past four years, except this time they took the stairs.

Head Coach Peter Gallagher is not sure when, or even how the tradition started, but for as long as anyone can remember the final practice of the regular season has always marked the first, and last time that a football senior would take the stairs when leaving from practice.

You see, while it may seem like a miniscule or unimportant detail, Ursinus football players are not permitted to take the stairs until their final practice. Instead, throughout their four years they are forced to walk down the muddy and pot-hole filled hill to reach the practice field. The reason, stated by Coach Gallagher, is "Because taking the stairs would be taking the easy way out."

And while this could be construed as trivial to those outside of the program, nobody can argue with the results. Since the Ursinus football seniors arrived they have gone from the 1-9 laughing stock of the conference and country, to a legitimate conference contender with the ability to win on any given Saturday.

"We knew it wasn't going to be easy when we signed on to play football at Ursinus finishing our senior year in high school, but I think a lot of us took the recent struggles of the program as a challenge. It gave us the opportunity to

turn this program around and that is something we definitely did," stated senior captain Brian Hryncyszyn.

Since going 1-9 in their freshmen year and 4-6 their sophomore year, the senior Bears finished with consecutive winning seasons going 15-5 the last two years including a post-season birth in the 2006 ECAC Southwest Bowl.

"It seems like everyone is dedicated to working hard in the weight room and doing whatever it takes to win a championship now. The mentality of the players in the program has drastically changed since we got here," said Hryncyszyn.

Not only has Ursinus enjoyed increased success as a team, but a total of eight seniors were given all-conference recognition at the end of the season, thus exemplifying how good this class really was. In fact, some of the seniors are good enough that they could be playing football after they graduate in May, something rarely seen at the Division III level.

"The seniors we had this year were a special group. They did everything we asked of them the entire time they were here, and this program is where it is at now because of them. Not only were they great football players, but they were great students and young men as well," stated Gallagher.

You can bet that the tradition of not "taking the easy way out," will continue next year and for years to come as the Bears look to improve yet again with a strong contingent of underclassmen, as well as a group of new recruits that are also looking to work hard.

Men's Basketball Preview

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For the third consecutive year, the Ursinus College Men's Basketball team has been nationally ranked in the top twenty-five teams in D3. Entering his seventh season as the men's head basketball coach, Coach Small is looking at another impressive year.

Last season, the Bears ended with a 16-10 record, 13-5 in Conference play and 3-5 in non-conference play. Losing players after graduation is not stopping this team from working hard and preparing for the tough season ahead.

Senior captains Nick Shattack and Sean Butkus are eager to lead the men through another successful season. Butkus commented about losing players after graduation saying, "Obviously, the seniors we lost played an important role in the success we had last year. However, we return a lot of experience and brought in three very good players to overcome the loss of our seniors."

"I do think we are a team that will need some time because we will be better in February than November/December," said Coach Small when asked about the prospective season.

According to Butkus, the Men's team cannot wait to play Haverford, after they ended their run in the playoffs during the 2006-2007 season.

While playing the court, the Bears have proved to be no stranger to sportsmanship. Being honored with the College Basketball Officials Association's (CBOA) Regional Sportsmanship Award from 2002-2004, and then in 2006 they were presented with the CBOA National Sportsmanship Award.

Coach Small said, "We are really big on promoting the honor of the game, we recognize the officials are there because they love basketball, just like we do." He also mentioned the recruiting process, and that if you recruit great kids you can't expect anything less.

Besides playing on the court, Coach Small mentioned the charity work the team has done and will continue to do. This summer, Coach Small is trying to get a trip together to visit Brazil with the team to run basketball camps for kids.

"The work with charity is a great experience as it provides us with a chance to help out a great cause," said Butkus.

Coach Small shared one of his fondest memories with the team, which occurred in the winter of 2006. The team was playing Haverford during the NCAA Tournament and there must have been about 1000 Helferich Hooligans cheering the team on. At the final buzzer the score was 69-70, Haverford. All of a sudden, the Ursinus crowd stood and started chanting, "UC, UC, UC!" Coach Small said by the time he reached the locker room he couldn't be angry anymore.

Coach Small would like to extend his thanks to the Hooligans and any other supporters, and he would like to encourage them to continue their support throughout the seasons. He continued to say that the team will really need the "sixth" man early in the season, so any support they can get will be greatly appreciated.

Thus far the Bears have defeated both Washington & Lee and Lebanon Valley. The team's next home game is on December 5th against Franklin and Marshall at 7:30pm. The team would really love the support of UC during this game! So come out and get excited to see the UC Men's Basketball team dominate the court.